United Nations S/AC.44/2004/(02)/92

Security Council

Distr.: General
22 December 2004

Original: English

Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004)

Note verbale dated 17 December 2004 from the Permanent Mission of Oman to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Committee

The Permanent Representative of the Sultanate of Oman to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) and, with reference to the latter's note dated 13 August 2004 and 9 December 2004, concerning the preparation of national reports pursuant to operative paragraph 4 of the aforementioned resolution, has the honour to submit herewith Oman's report to the Committee on steps taken to implement resolution 1540 (2004) (see annex).

05-22097 (E) 090205 090205

Annex to the note verbale dated 17 December 2004 from the Permanent Mission of Oman to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Committee

[Original: Arabic]

Report of the Sultanate of Oman to the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) concerning weapons of mass destruction

Aware of the threat that the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and of their means of delivery poses to international peace and security and convinced that all Member States must abide by their disarmament and arms control commitments, the Sultanate of Oman supports the various international efforts to ensure the non-proliferation and elimination of such weapons.

The Sultanate of Oman stresses that the Middle East, one of the most volatile regions in the world, must become a zone free of weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear weapons, especially as that part of the world is faced with an arms race and is seeing the chances for establishing peace and stability vanish.

The Sultanate of Oman attaches importance to this issue as evidenced by its accession to international conventions and treaties on weapons of mass destruction, including the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction, the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction and the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty as well as by its compliance with the relevant United Nations resolutions. The Sultanate of Oman is making good on its commitments by drafting laws, establishing control measures and applying the necessary procedures on the national level. The law on weapons and ammunition issued in accordance with Sultan's Decree No. 36/90 and amended by Sultan's Decree No. 48/96 establishes measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons in the national territory or elsewhere. There are also arrangements in place on the ground to prevent the acquisition, trade, manufacture or use of any weapons or ammunition by terrorists. To prevent anyone, including terrorists, from acquiring, manufacturing, possessing, transporting, transforming or using weapons of mass destruction or their means of delivery, the Sultanate of Oman makes every effort to ensure control of its borders and to do a thorough search of persons and luggage crossing the borders of the country.

The Sultanate of Oman, which supports firmly the efforts made in all regions of the world to establish international peace and security, is concerned by the intensification of terrorist activities and the prospect that terrorist groups could possess weapons of mass destruction. Given that the situation that prevails in some parts of the world could facilitate the acquisition of such weapons by those groups, the Sultanate of Oman urges the international community to work together to eliminate weapons of mass destruction. In order to dispel fears connected with the proliferation of such weapons, it is necessary above all to put an end to occupation situations and to settle the conflicts that exist in some regions of the world, inter alia, the Middle East, as the status quo can only exacerbate the situation and fuel tensions.